

681—3.116 (8A) Disciplinary actions. Disciplinary action will be reasonable, timely and related in severity to the seriousness of the offense; however, this will not preclude reasonable penalties of varying severity for an accumulation of offenses.

3.116(1) *Suspension.* A department head may, for cause in accordance with 681—3.115(8A), suspend any employee for such length of time as the department head considers appropriate but not to exceed 10 days at any one time or 20 days in any 12-month period. The department head will inform the affected employee of the suspension and the reasons therefor in writing within 24 hours of the time the action is taken. A copy of the suspension will be sent by the department to the resident director and will be maintained in the employee's personnel file. Employees may appeal the action directly to Step 2 of the grievance procedure specified in 681—3.129(8A) or to a comparable step in a grievance procedure approved in accordance with 3.129(1). If not satisfied with the decision rendered at that step, employees may pursue their appeal in accordance with the grievance procedure.

3.116(2) *Reduction of pay within grade.* A department head may, for cause in accordance with 681—3.115(8A), reduce the pay of an employee to a lower rate of pay within the pay grade assigned to the class. The department head will notify the affected employee of the reduction, the reasons therefor and the duration thereof, in writing within 24 hours of the time the action is taken. A copy of the reduction notice will be sent by the department to the resident director and will be maintained in the employee's personnel file. Employees may appeal the action directly to Step 2 of the grievance procedure specified in 681—3.129(8A) or a comparable step in a grievance procedure approved in accordance with 3.129(1). If not satisfied with the decision rendered at that step, employees may pursue their appeal in accordance with the grievance procedure.

3.116(3) *Demotion.* A department head may, for cause in accordance with 681—3.115(8A), demote an employee to a vacant position in a lower class provided the employee meets the qualifications for that lower class. The department head will notify the affected employee of the demotion and the reasons therefor in writing within 24 hours of the time the action is taken. A copy of the notice of demotion will be sent by the department to the resident director and will be maintained in the employee's personnel file. Employees may appeal the action directly to Step 2 of the grievance procedure specified in 681—3.129(8A) or a comparable step in a grievance procedure approved in accordance with 3.129(1). If not satisfied with the decision rendered at that step, the employees may pursue their appeal in accordance with the grievance procedure.

3.116(4) *Discharge.* A department head may, for cause in accordance with 681—3.115(8A), discharge any employee. The department head will notify the affected employee of the discharge and the reasons therefor in writing within 24 hours of the time the action is taken. A copy of the notice of discharge will be sent by the department to the resident director and will be maintained in the employee's personnel file. Employees may appeal the action directly to Step 2 of the grievance procedure specified in 681—3.129(8A) or a comparable step in a grievance procedure approved in accordance with 3.129(1). If not satisfied with the decision rendered at that step, employees may pursue their appeal in accordance with the grievance procedure.